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June 26, 1987

TO:

File

FROM:

Frank Filas, Reclamation Engineer

RE:

Site Inspection, Utelite Mine, M/043/004

On June 22, 1987 Frank Filas and Frank Jensen toured the Utelite Mine with Carsten Mortensen, Utelite Corporation and Slim Garrick, Mineral Services, Incorporated. The primary purpose of the inspection was to assist Utelite Corp. in preparing a revised reclamation plan.

The Utelite operation is an open pit shale mine that has a steep highwall. Overburden has been cast downhill on the south side and has become overgrown with weeds. The drainage below has also been partially blocked by a pad of waste material creating a small pond.

The mine is located next to the local landfill and it was mutually agreed that the most probable post mining land use for the pit would be as a landfill. Mr. Mortensen agreed to regrade the overburden piles this year and plant them with a seed mixture recommended by Frank Jensen. Mr. Mortensen plans to fill in the pond with additional waste material leaving a narrow channel for drainage. We suggested that they place some good soil material over the waste and seed it as soon as is practical. Rip rap or other measures may be required in some areas of the channel to prevent erosion.

The Utelite operation may qualify for the rock aggregate exemption and it was agreed that Utelite would submit a mine and reclamation plan, but the Division would not require a bond until such time that the rules concerning rock aggregate exemptions are finalized.

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cc: L. Braxton

F. Jensen

D. Wham

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